GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1206
ANSWERED ON:26.11.2007
IMPROVEMENT IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR
Mahto Shri Tek Lal

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the contribution of Agriculture Sector in economic development of the country has been declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to improve the deteriorating condition of the Agriculture Sector in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): According to the data compiled by Central Statistical Organization, the share of agriculture and allied sector in the total Gross Domestic Product (GDP), at constant (1999-2000) prices declined from 20.2 per cent in 2004-05 to 19.7 per cent in 2005-06 and further to 18.5 per cent in 2006-07. This was mainly due to increase in the relative share of GDP in services sector which has improved from 52.7 per cent in 2004-05 to 54.1 per cent in 2005-06 and further to 54.9 per cent in 2006-07.

(c) : The National Development Council (NDC) in its 53rd meeting held on 29th May, 2007 reaffirmed its commitment to achieve 4 per cent annual growth in the agricultural sector during the Eleventh Plan and resolved that agricultural development strategies must be reoriented to meet the needs of farmers and urged the Central and State Governments to evolve a strategy to rejuvenate agriculture. Towards improving the growth in the agriculture sector, Government has initiated the following:

Launched Food Security Mission with an outlay of Rs. 4880 crore for the Eleventh Plan period. It aims to add additional 10 million tonnes of rice, 8 million tonnes of wheat and 2 million tonnes of pulses by the end of the Eleventh Plan.
Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), a State Plan Scheme, with an outlay of Rs. 25000 crore aims at achieving 4% annual growth in the agriculture sector during the Eleventh Plan period, to ensure a holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors.
The newly created National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) would assist States in planning for rainfed areas.
Providing additional resources for irrigation.
Strategic focus on the national agriculture research effort.